

WHAT IS CLAIMED:

1. A meltspun web having improved liquid repellency properties, the meltspun web comprising a thermoplastic polymer and a hydrophobic agent, the hydrophobic agent being incorporated into the thermoplastic polymer, the hydrophobic agent comprising a polydimethylsiloxane, a guerbet ester, or mixtures thereof.
2. A meltspun web as defined in claim 1, wherein the hydrophobic agent comprises a polydimethylsiloxane.
3. A meltspun web as defined in claim 1, wherein the hydrophobic agent comprises a guerbet ester.
4. A meltspun web as defined in claim 3, wherein the guerbet ester comprises trioctyldodecylcitrate.
5. A meltspun web as defined in claim 1, wherein the thermoplastic polymer is a polyolefin, a polyester, a polyetherester, or a polyamide.
6. A meltspun web as defined in claim 1, wherein the thermoplastic polymer is polypropylene or polyethylene.
7. A meltspun web as defined in claim 1, wherein the web is a meltblown web.
8. A meltspun web as defined in claim 1, wherein the web is a spunbond web.
9. A meltspun web as defined in claim 1, wherein the meltspun web further comprises a fluoropolymer topically applied to the web.
10. A meltspun web as defined in claim 1, wherein the web has a basis weight of up to about 2 osy.
11. A meltspun web as defined in claim 1, wherein the web has a hydrohead of at least 60 cm.
12. A meltspun web as defined in claim, 1, wherein the web has a resistance to blood penetration of less than about 1.7%.

13. A meltspun web as defined in claim 1, wherein the hydrophobic agent is incorporated into the thermoplastic polymer in an amount up to about 10% by weight.

14. A meltspun web as defined in claim 1, wherein the hydrophobic agent is incorporated into the thermoplastic polymer in an amount from about 0.5% to about 5% by weight.

15. An absorbent product incorporating the meltspun web defined in claim 1.

16. A laminate comprising at least a first layer bonded to a second layer, the first layer comprising a meltspun web having improved liquid repellency properties, the meltspun web comprising a thermoplastic polymer and a hydrophobic agent, the hydrophobic agent being incorporated into the thermoplastic polymer, the hydrophobic agent comprising a polydimethylsiloxane, a guerbet ester, or mixtures thereof.

17. A laminate as defined in claim 16, wherein the hydrophobic agent comprises a polydimethylsiloxane.

18. A laminate as defined in claim 16, wherein the hydrophobic agent comprises a guerbet ester.

19. A laminate as defined in claim 18, wherein the guerbet ester comprises trioctyldodecylcitrate.

20. A laminate as defined in claim 16, wherein the thermoplastic polymer is a polyolefin, a polyester, a polyetherester, or a polyamide.

21. A laminate as defined in claim 16, wherein the thermoplastic polymer is polypropylene or polyethylene.

22. A laminate as defined in claim 16, wherein the meltspun web is a meltblown web.

23. A laminate as defined in claim 22, wherein the second layer comprises an outer spunbond layer and wherein the laminate includes a third layer comprising an outer spunbond layer, the meltblown layer

being positioned in between the two outer spunbond layers.

24. A laminate as defined in claim 16, wherein the meltspun web is a spunbond web.

5 25. A laminate as defined in claim 16, wherein the meltspun web further comprises a fluoropolymer, topically applied to the web.

26. A laminate as defined in claim 16, wherein the meltspun web has a basis weight of up to about 2 osy.

27. A laminate as defined in claim 16, wherein the meltspun web has a hydrohead of at least 60 cm.

10 28. A laminate as defined in claim 16, wherein the meltspun web has a resistance to blood penetration of less than about 1.7%.

29. A laminate as defined in claim 16, wherein the hydrophobic agent is incorporated into the thermoplastic polymer in an amount up to about 10% by weight.

15 30. A laminate as defined in claim 16, wherein the hydrophobic agent is incorporated into the thermoplastic polymer in an amount from about 0.5% to about 5% by weight.

31. A laminate as defined in claim 16, wherein the layers are thermally bonded together.

20 32. A medical garment incorporating the laminate defined in claim 16.

33. A shoe covering incorporating the laminate defined in claim 16.

25 34. A personal care article incorporating the laminate defined in claim 16.

35. A drape incorporating the laminate defined in claim 16.

30 36. A laminate comprising a first layer bonded to a second layer, the first layer comprising a meltblown web made from a thermoplastic polymer, the thermoplastic polymer comprising polyethylene or polypropylene, the thermoplastic polymer incorporating a

- hydrophobic agent, the hydrophobic agent comprising a polydimethylsiloxane, a guerbet ester, or mixtures thereof, the hydrophobic agent being present in the thermoplastic polymer in an amount from about 0.5% to about 5% by weight, the meltblown web
- 5 having a basis weight of up to about 2 osy.
37. A laminate as defined in claim 36, wherein the second layer comprises a spunbond web.
38. A laminate as defined in claim 37, wherein the laminate further comprises a third layer comprising a spunbond web, the
- 10 meltblown web being located between the two spunbond webs.
39. A laminate as defined in claim 38, wherein the layers are thermally bonded together.
40. A laminate as defined in claim 36, wherein the hydrophobic agent comprises a polydimethylsiloxane.
- 15 41. A laminate as defined in claim 36, wherein the hydrophobic agent comprises a guerbet ester.
42. A laminate as defined in claim 41, wherein the guerbet ester comprises trioctyldodecylcitrate.

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